

ESSB 5599 - H COMM AMD  
By Committee on Health Care

ADOPTED 04/06/2005

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** Washington state is experiencing a critical  
4 shortage of registered nurses. To safeguard and promote patient safety  
5 and quality of care, the legislature finds that a central resource  
6 center for the nursing work force is critical and essential in  
7 addressing the nursing shortage and ensuring that the public continue  
8 to receive safe, quality care.

9 **Sec. 2.** RCW 43.70.110 and 1993 sp.s. c 24 s 918 are each amended  
10 to read as follows:

11 (1) The secretary shall charge fees to the licensee for obtaining  
12 a license. After June 30, 1995, municipal corporations providing  
13 emergency medical care and transportation services pursuant to chapter  
14 18.73 RCW shall be exempt from such fees, provided that such other  
15 emergency services shall only be charged for their pro rata share of  
16 the cost of licensure and inspection, if appropriate. The secretary  
17 may waive the fees when, in the discretion of the secretary, the fees  
18 would not be in the best interest of public health and safety, or when  
19 the fees would be to the financial disadvantage of the state.

20 (2) Except as provided in section 4 of this act, until June 30,  
21 2013, fees charged shall be based on, but shall not exceed, the cost to  
22 the department for the licensure of the activity or class of activities  
23 and may include costs of necessary inspection.

24 (3) Department of health advisory committees may review fees  
25 established by the secretary for licenses and comment upon the  
26 appropriateness of the level of such fees.

27 **Sec. 3.** RCW 43.70.250 and 1996 c 191 s 1 are each amended to read  
28 as follows:

1       It shall be the policy of the state of Washington that the cost of  
2 each professional, occupational, or business licensing program be fully  
3 borne by the members of that profession, occupation, or business. The  
4 secretary shall from time to time establish the amount of all  
5 application fees, license fees, registration fees, examination fees,  
6 permit fees, renewal fees, and any other fee associated with licensing  
7 or regulation of professions, occupations, or businesses administered  
8 by the department. In fixing said fees, the secretary shall set the  
9 fees for each program at a sufficient level to defray the costs of  
10 administering that program, except as provided in section 4 of this act  
11 until June 30, 2013. All such fees shall be fixed by rule adopted by  
12 the secretary in accordance with the provisions of the administrative  
13 procedure act, chapter 34.05 RCW.

14       NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 18.79 RCW  
15 to read as follows:

16       (1) In addition to the licensing fee for registered nurses and  
17 licensed practical nurses licensed under this chapter, the department  
18 shall impose an additional surcharge of five dollars per year on all  
19 initial licenses and renewal licenses for registered nurses and  
20 licensed practical nurses issued under this chapter. Advanced  
21 registered nurse practitioners are only required to pay the surcharge  
22 on their registered nurse licenses.

23       (2) The department, in consultation with the commission and the  
24 work force training and education coordinating board, shall use the  
25 proceeds from the surcharge imposed under subsection (1) of this  
26 section to provide grants to a central nursing resource center. The  
27 grants may be awarded only to a not-for-profit central nursing resource  
28 center that is comprised of and led by nurses. The central nursing  
29 resource center will demonstrate coordination with relevant nursing  
30 constituents including professional nursing organizations, groups  
31 representing nursing educators, staff nurses, nurse managers or  
32 executives, and labor organizations representing nurses. The central  
33 nursing resource center shall have as its mission to contribute to the  
34 health and wellness of Washington state residents by ensuring that  
35 there is an adequate nursing work force to meet the current and future  
36 health care needs of the citizens of the state of Washington. The

1 grants may be used to fund the following activities of the central  
2 nursing resource center:

3 (a) Maintain information on the current and projected supply and  
4 demand of nurses through the collection and analysis of data regarding  
5 the nursing work force, including but not limited to education level,  
6 race and ethnicity, employment settings, nursing positions, reasons for  
7 leaving the nursing profession, and those leaving Washington state to  
8 practice elsewhere. This data collection and analysis must complement  
9 other state activities to produce data on the nursing work force and  
10 the central nursing resource center shall work collaboratively with  
11 other entities in the data collection to ensure coordination and avoid  
12 duplication of efforts;

13 (b) Monitor and validate trends in the applicant pool for programs  
14 in nursing. The central nursing resource center must work with nursing  
15 leaders to identify approaches to address issues arising related to the  
16 trends identified, and collect information on other states' approaches  
17 to addressing these issues;

18 (c) Facilitate partnerships between the nursing community and other  
19 health care providers, licensing authority, business and industry,  
20 consumers, legislators, and educators to achieve policy consensus,  
21 promote diversity within the profession, and enhance nursing career  
22 mobility and nursing leadership development;

23 (d) Evaluate the effectiveness of nursing education and  
24 articulation among programs to increase access to nursing education and  
25 enhance career mobility, especially for populations that are  
26 underrepresented in the nursing profession;

27 (e) Provide consultation, technical assistance, data, and  
28 information related to Washington state and national nursing resources;

29 (f) Promote strategies to enhance patient safety and quality  
30 patient care including encouraging a safe and healthy workplace  
31 environment for nurses; and

32 (g) Educate the public including students in K-12 about  
33 opportunities and careers in nursing.

34 (3) The nursing resource center account is created in the custody  
35 of the state treasurer. All receipts from the surcharge in subsection  
36 (1) of this section must be deposited in the account. Expenditures  
37 from the account may be used only for grants to an organization to  
38 conduct the specific activities listed in subsection (2) of this

1 section and to compensate the department for the reasonable costs  
2 associated with the collection and distribution of the surcharge and  
3 the administration of the grant provided for in subsection (2) of this  
4 section. No money from this account may be used by the recipient  
5 towards administrative costs of the central nursing resource center not  
6 associated with the specific activities listed in subsection (2) of  
7 this section. No money from this account may be used by the recipient  
8 toward lobbying. Only the secretary or the secretary's designee may  
9 authorize expenditures from the account. The account is subject to  
10 allotment procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW, but an appropriation is  
11 not required for expenditures. Grants will be awarded on an annual  
12 basis and funds will be distributed quarterly. The first distribution  
13 after awarding the first grant shall be made no later than six months  
14 after the effective date of this section. The central nursing resource  
15 center shall report to the department on meeting the grant objectives  
16 annually.

17 (4) The central nursing resource center shall submit a report of  
18 all progress, collaboration with other organizations and government  
19 entities, and activities conducted by the center to the relevant  
20 committees of the legislature by November 30, 2011. The department  
21 shall conduct a review of the program to collect funds to support the  
22 activities of a nursing resource center and make recommendations on the  
23 effectiveness of the program and whether it should continue. The  
24 review shall be paid for with funds from the nursing resource center  
25 account. The review must be completed by June 30, 2012.

26 (5) The department may adopt rules as necessary to implement this  
27 act.

28 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** The following acts or parts of acts, as now  
29 existing or hereafter amended, are each repealed, effective June 30,  
30 2013:

31 (1) Section 1, chapter . . . , Laws of 2005 (section 1 of this act);  
32 and

33 (2) Section 4, chapter . . . , Laws of 2005 (section 4 of this  
34 act)."

35 Correct the title.

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